

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2076
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2001
ROTTING OF WHEAT IN FCI GODOWNS
MAHESHWAR SINGH

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether wheat worth Rs. 36 crore purchased from farmers of Hoshangabad district and some quantity from Punjab has rotten in godowns of FCI in Itarsi;
- (b) whether 2 lakh tonnes of wheat worth Rs. 185 crore was also in rotten; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Government have fixed the responsibility for rotting of foodgrains produced by hard work of farmers and labourers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI S. N. SRIRAM CHAUHAN)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Out of the total stocks of 327.06 lakh tons of foodgrains available with the Food Corporation of India (FCI), only 1.82 lakh tons are damaged, which works out to 0.55%.

(c): In spite of various steps taken for maintenance and preservation of foodgrains, some damage to the foodgrains stock takes place due to long storage periods as well as due to natural calamities such as flood, cyclone etc. Such damaged stocks retrieved after segregation/ salvaging, which are unfit for human consumption, are disposed off as fit for cattle feed, industrial use, manure and dumping etc.

(d): As most of the foodgrains were damaged due to natural calamities and not due to human negligence, fixing the responsibility on the staff for all cases does not arise. However, wherever stocks are damaged due to negligence etc., of the officers, the FCI takes action as per their prescribed procedure.